

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs 1 and 8. That is, Fig. 1 has been amended to include the subtitle for element (2) image processing device and Fig. 8 has been amended to correctly recite “Case of white/black-permuted.” In addition, replacements sheets are included for all Figs. 1 – 29, in which all of the elements in the drawings are now in referenced in English.





Fig.1

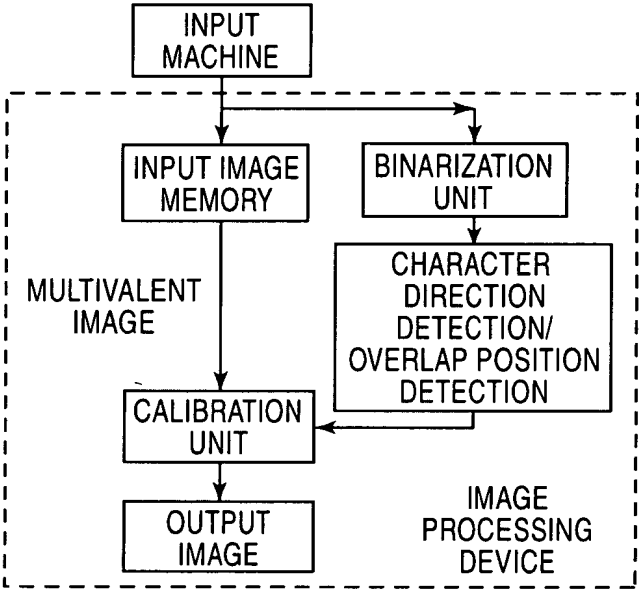
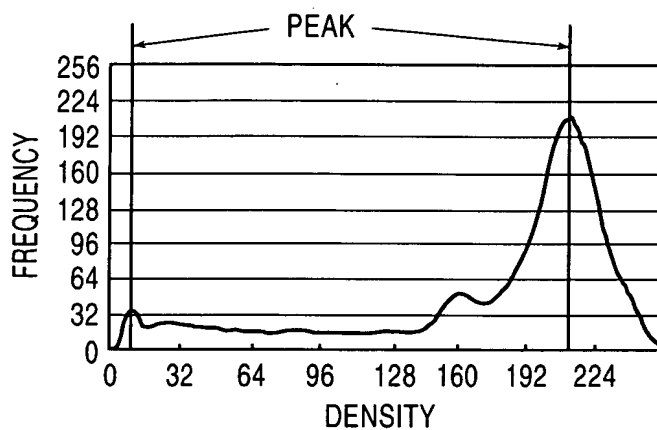




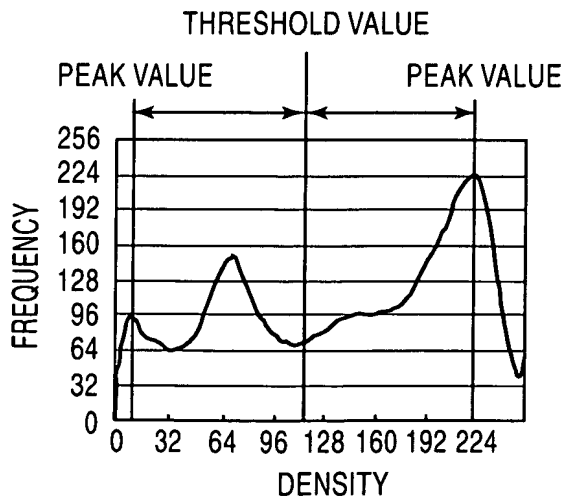


Fig.2



CASE WHERE TWO PEAKS HAVE ARISEN ON A HISTOGRAM

Fig.3



THRESHOLD VALUE DETERMINATION METHOD 1





Fig.4

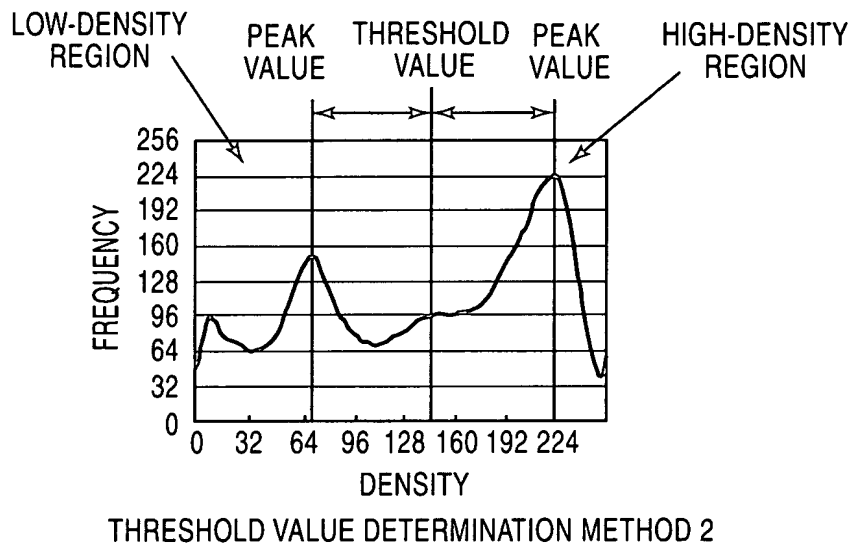


Fig.5

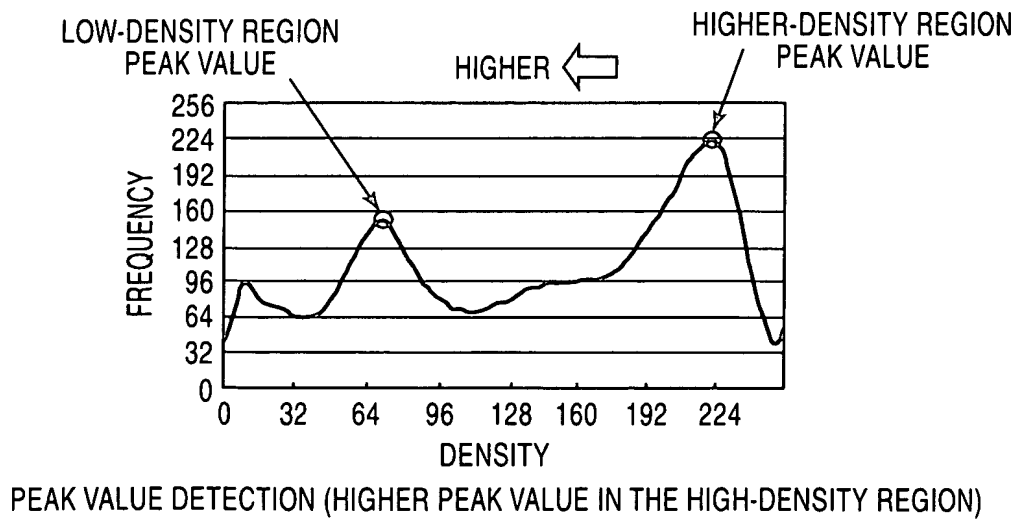




Fig.6

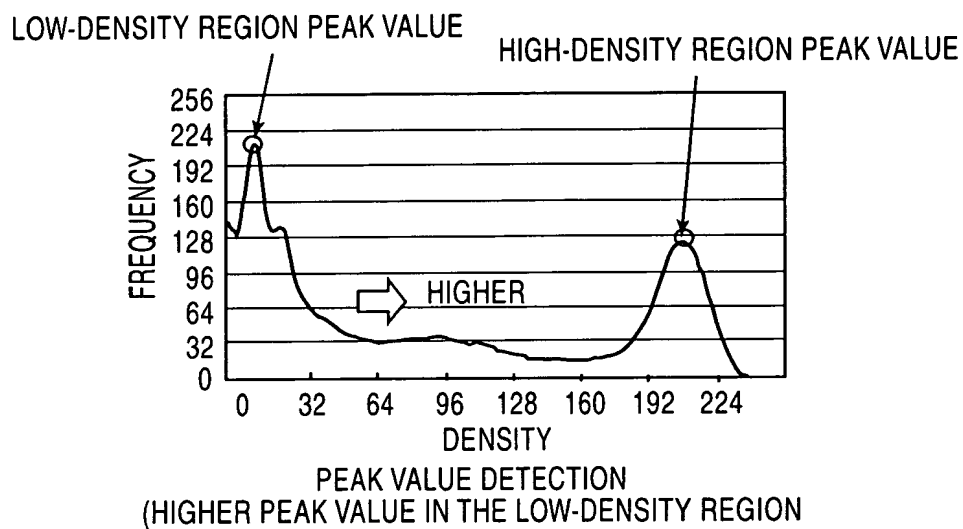


Fig.7

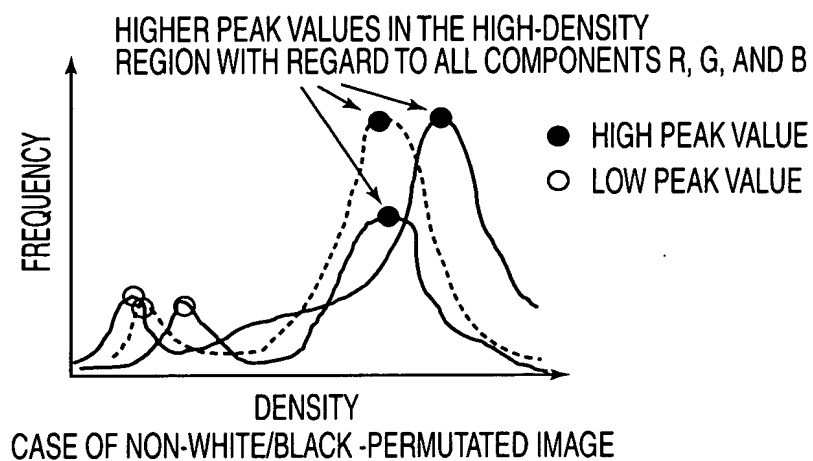






Fig.8

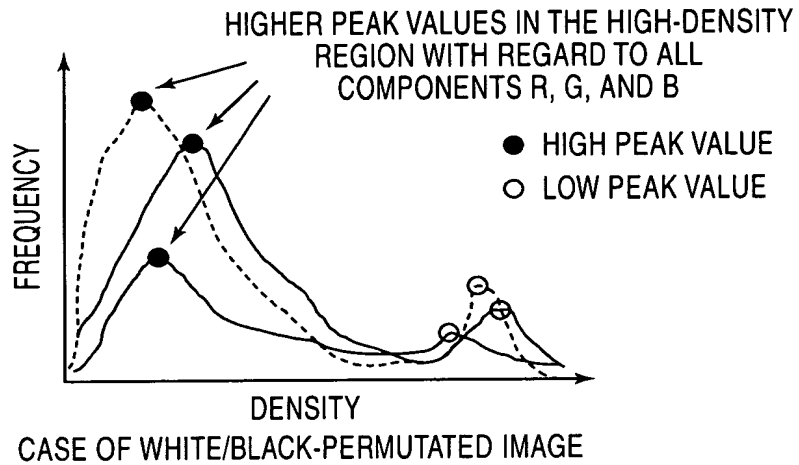


Fig.9

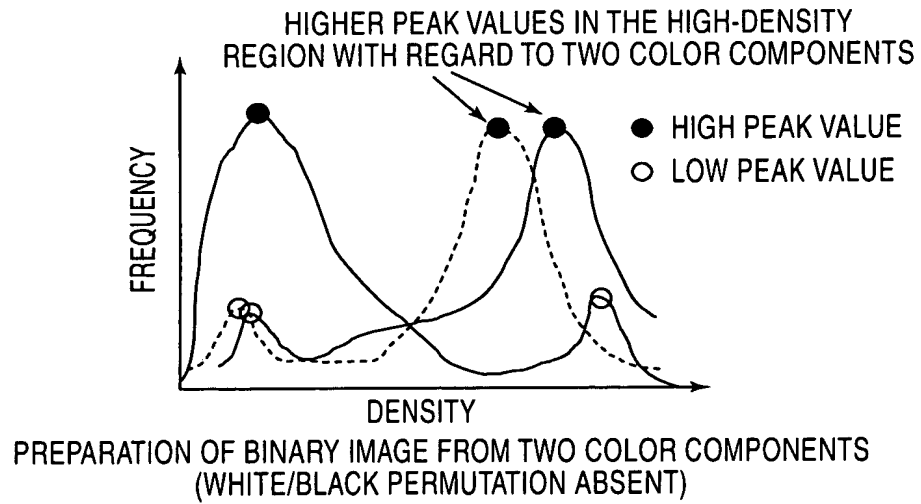
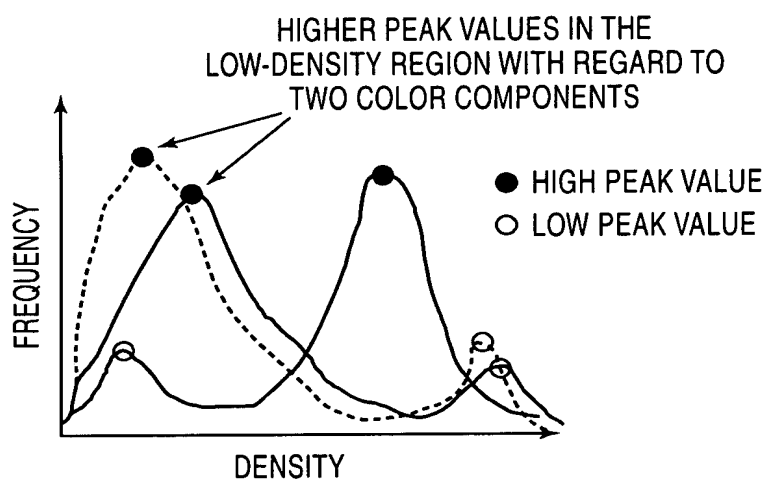






Fig.10



PREPARATION OF BINARY IMAGE FROM  
TWO COLOR COMPONENTS (WHITE/BLACK  
PERMUTATION PRESENT)





Fig.11

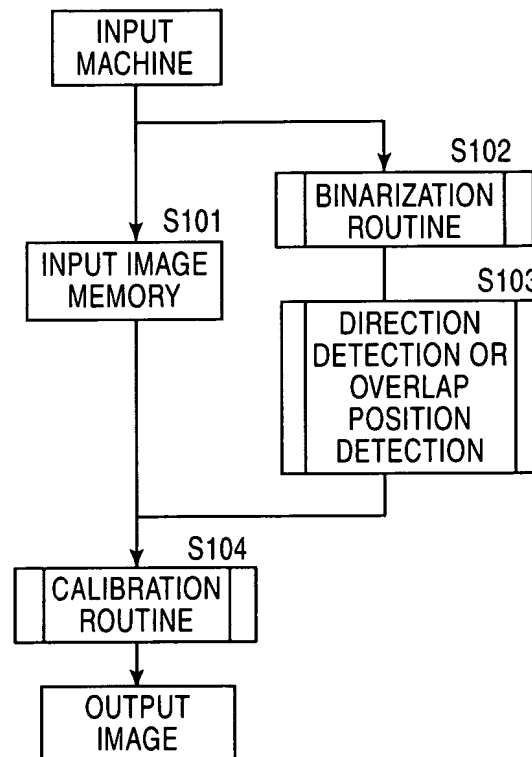






Fig.12

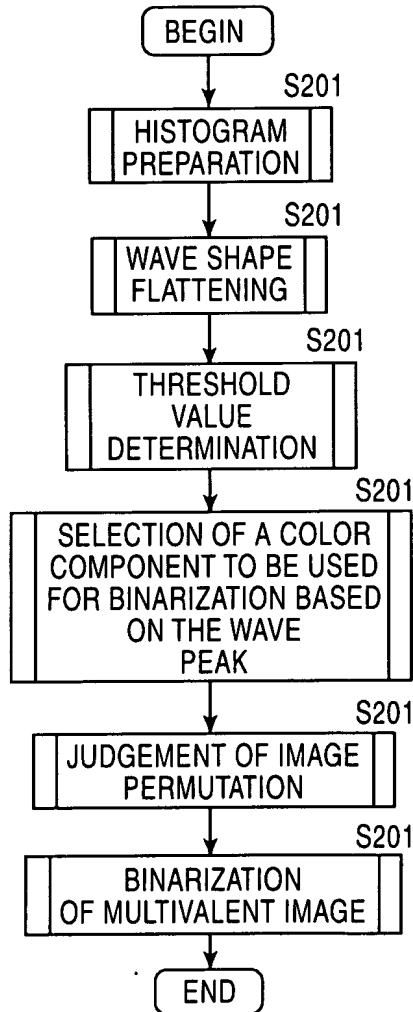






Fig.13

HISTOGRAM  
RAW DATA

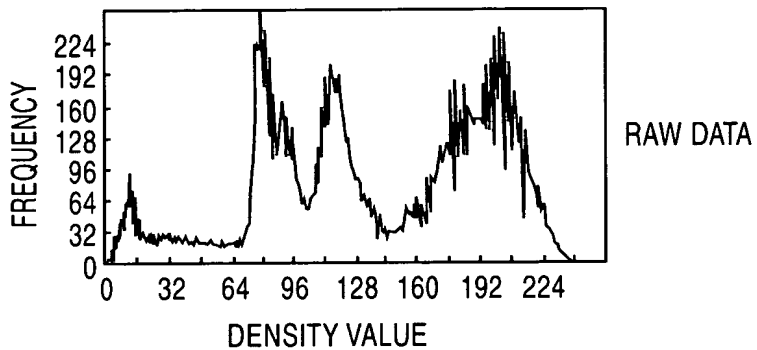
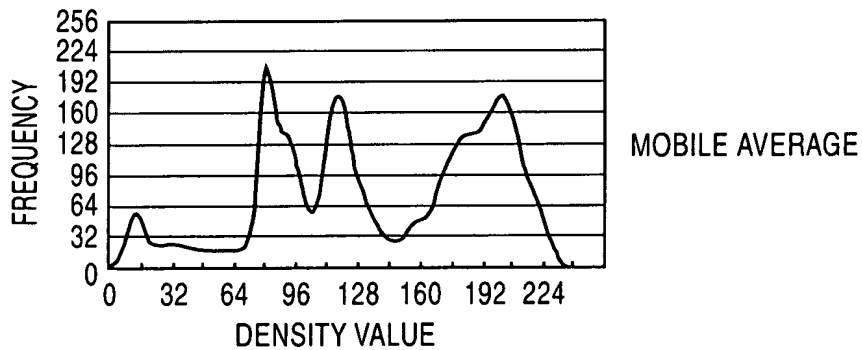


Fig.14

HISTOGRAM  
MOBILE AVERAGE

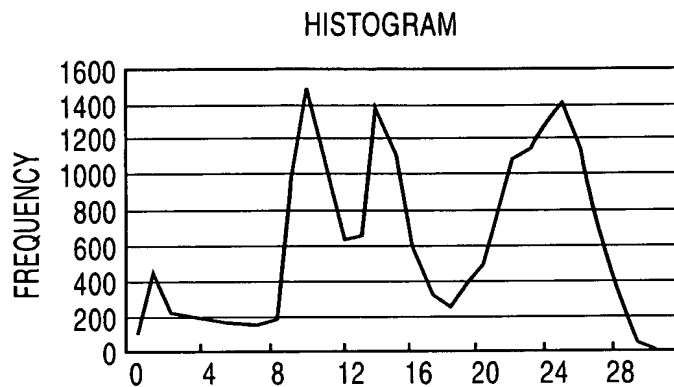


WAVE SHAPE CALCULATED BASED ON THE MOBILE AVERAGE





Fig.15



DENSITY (256th TONE -> 32nd TONE)

HISTOGRAM PREPARED FROM A  
TONE-DOWNGRADED IMAGE





Fig.16

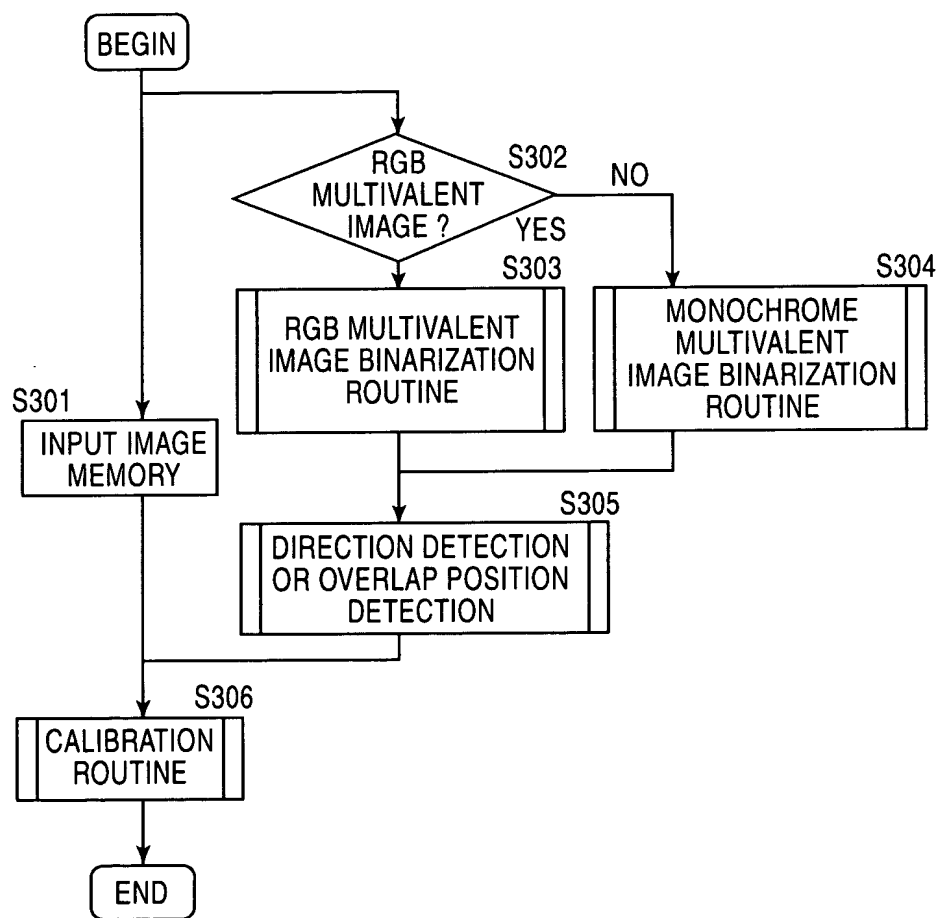






Fig.17

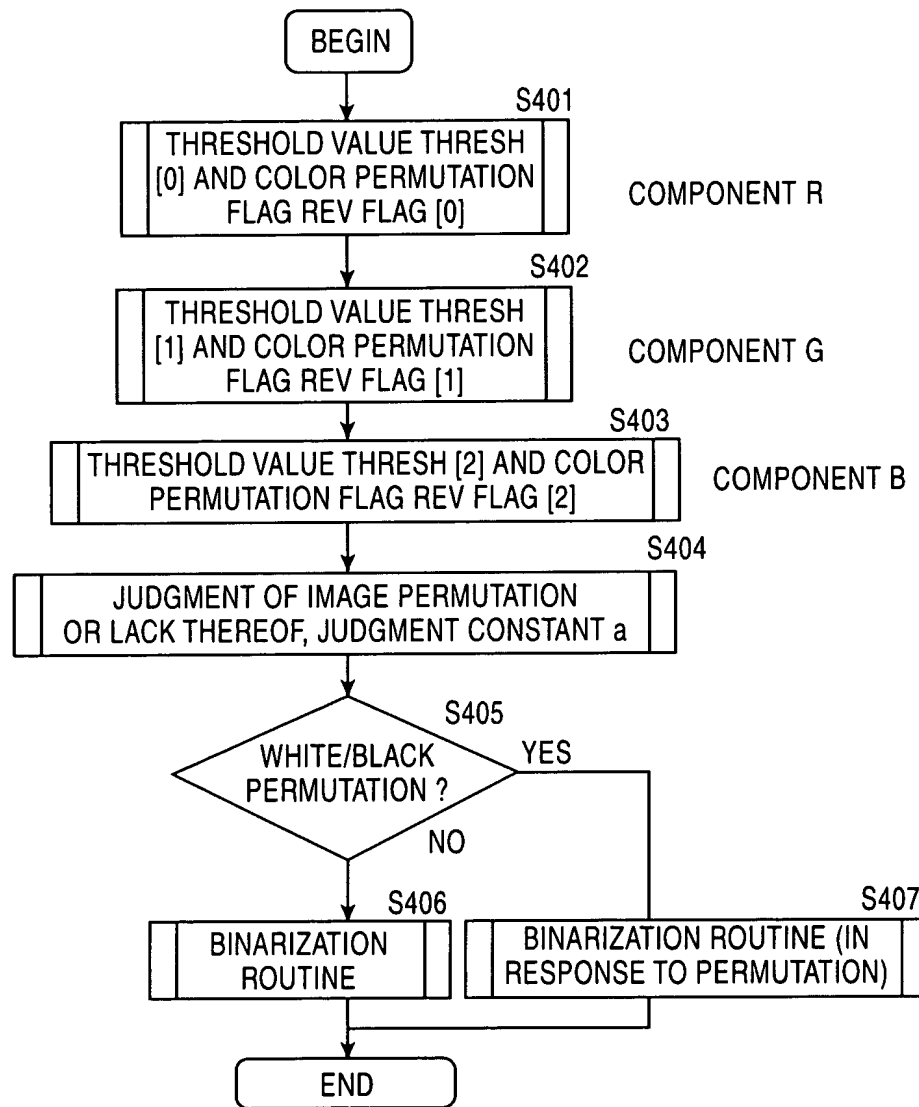






Fig.18

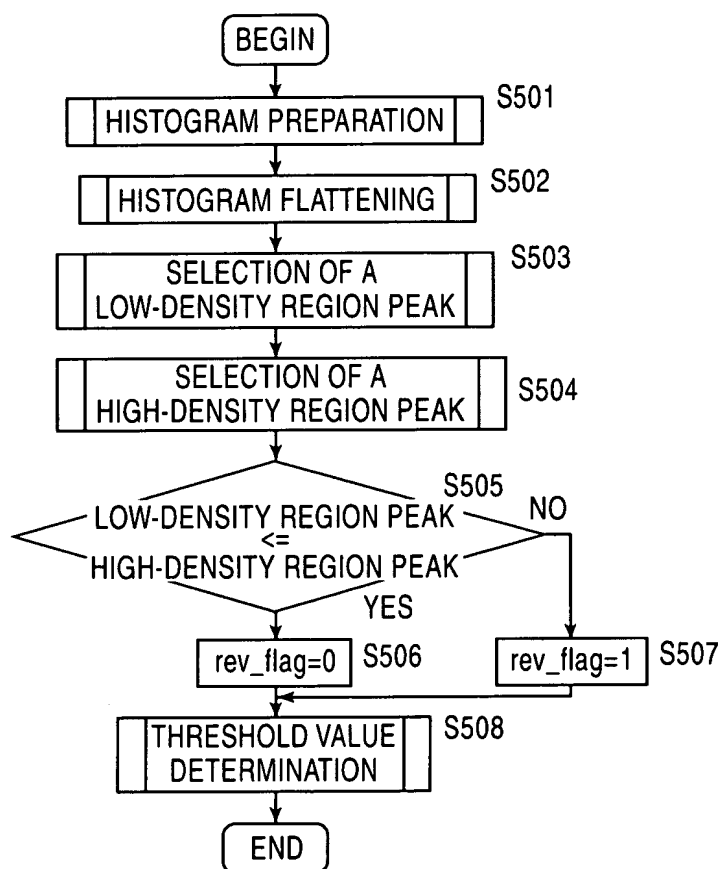






Fig.19

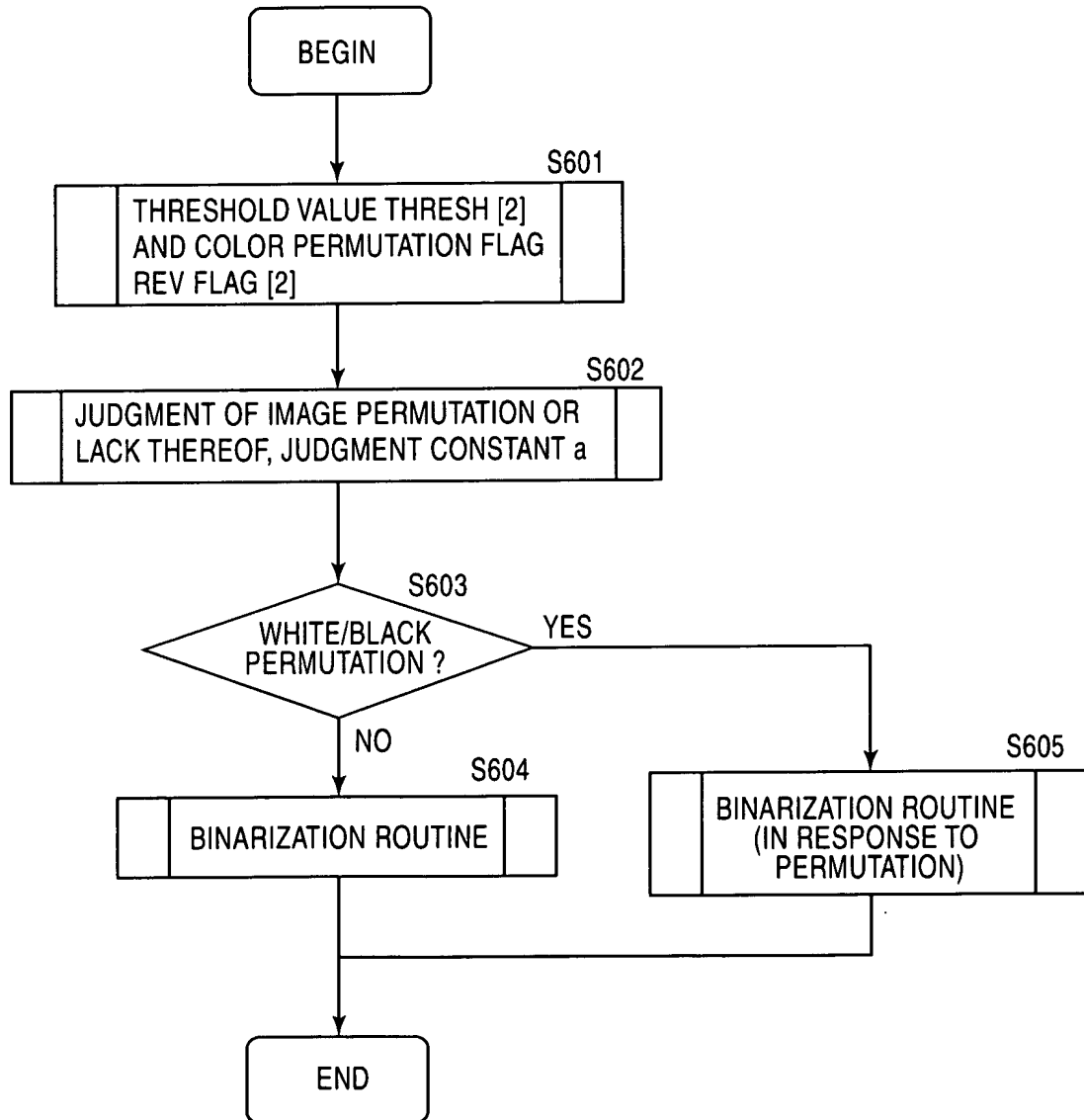






Fig.20

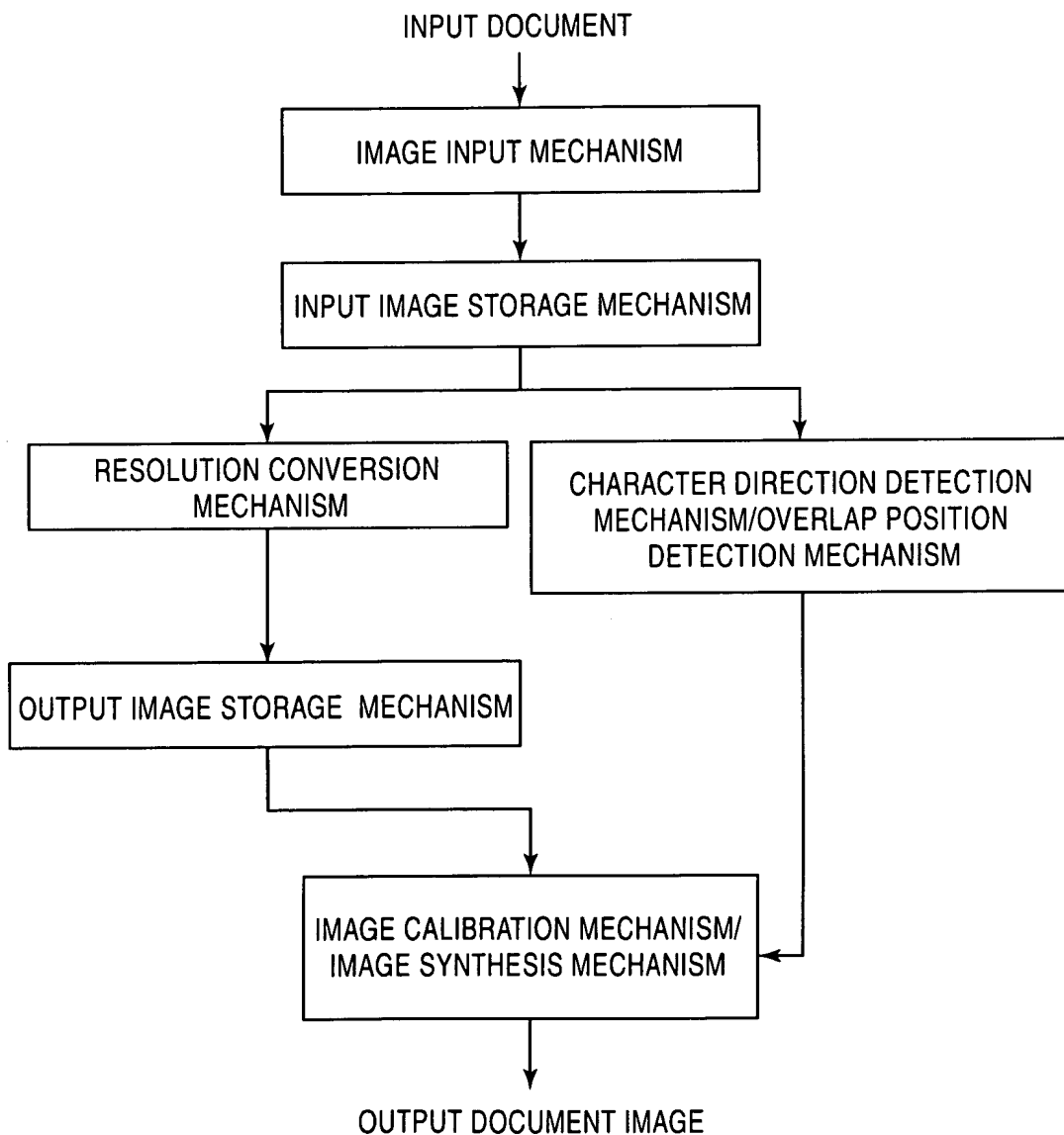






Fig.21

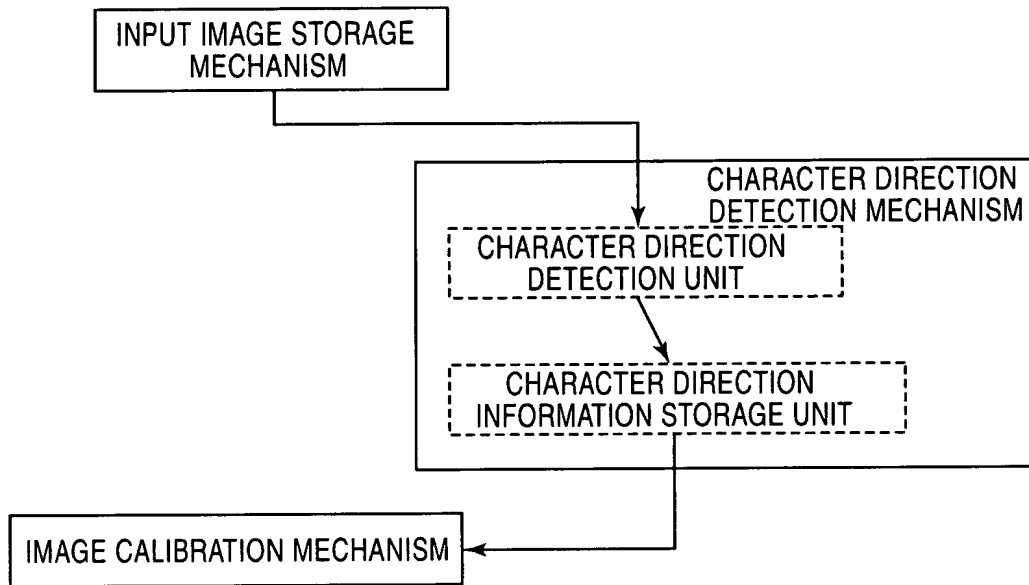




Fig.22

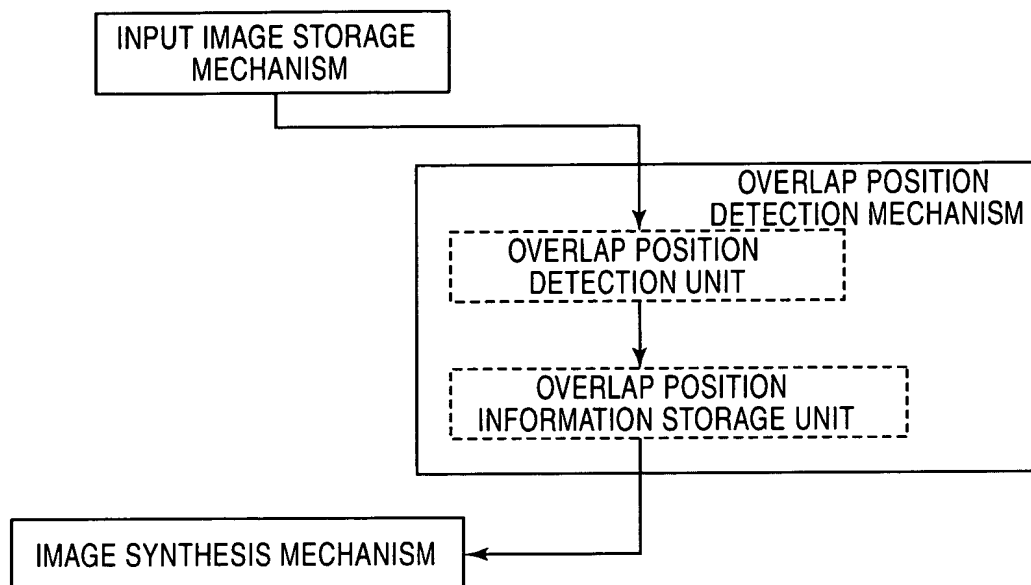


Fig.23

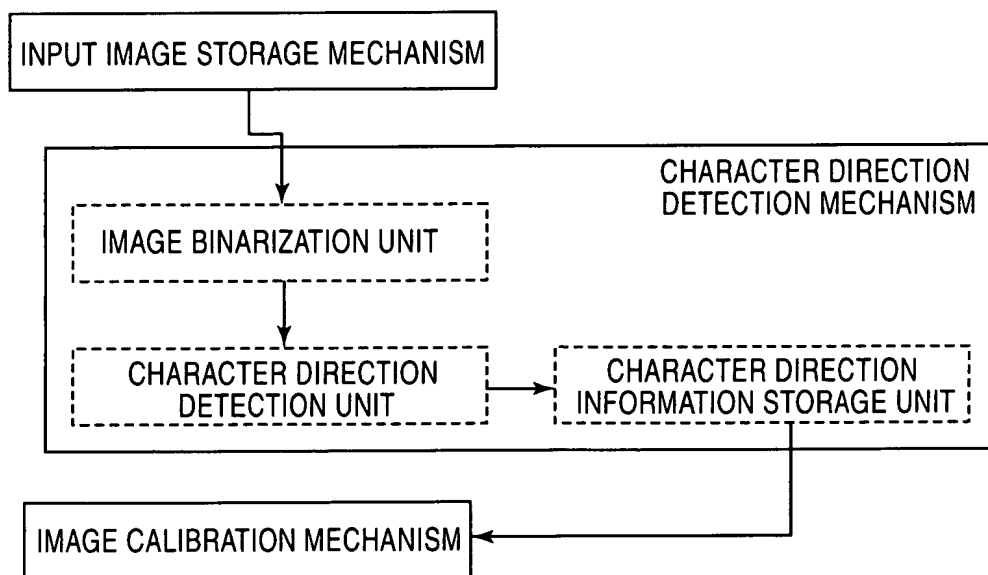






Fig.24

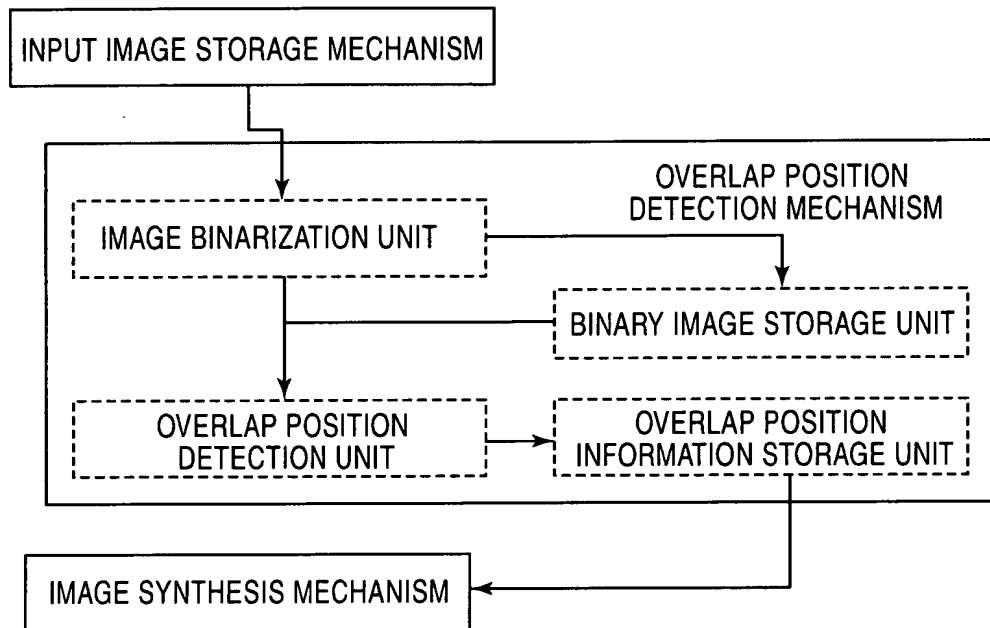




Fig.25

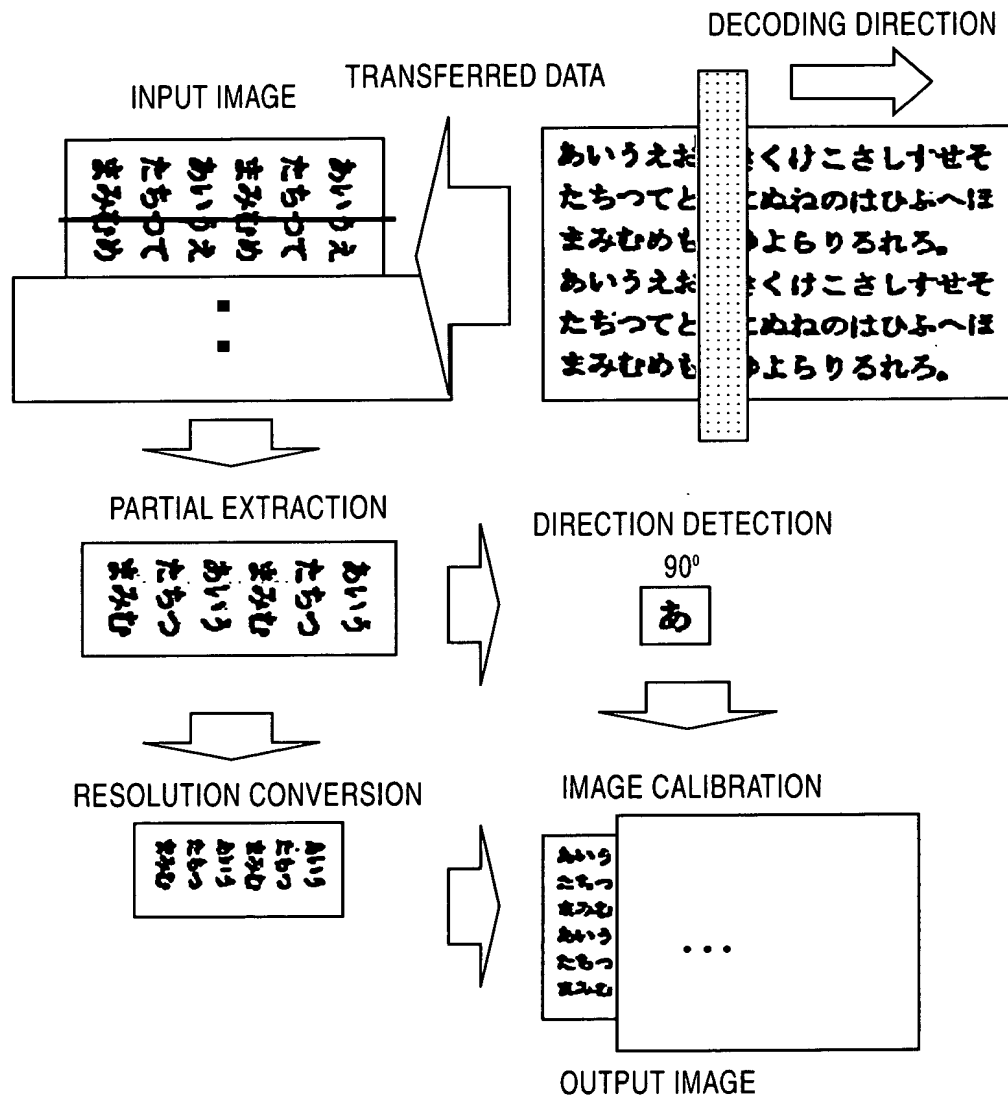




Fig.26

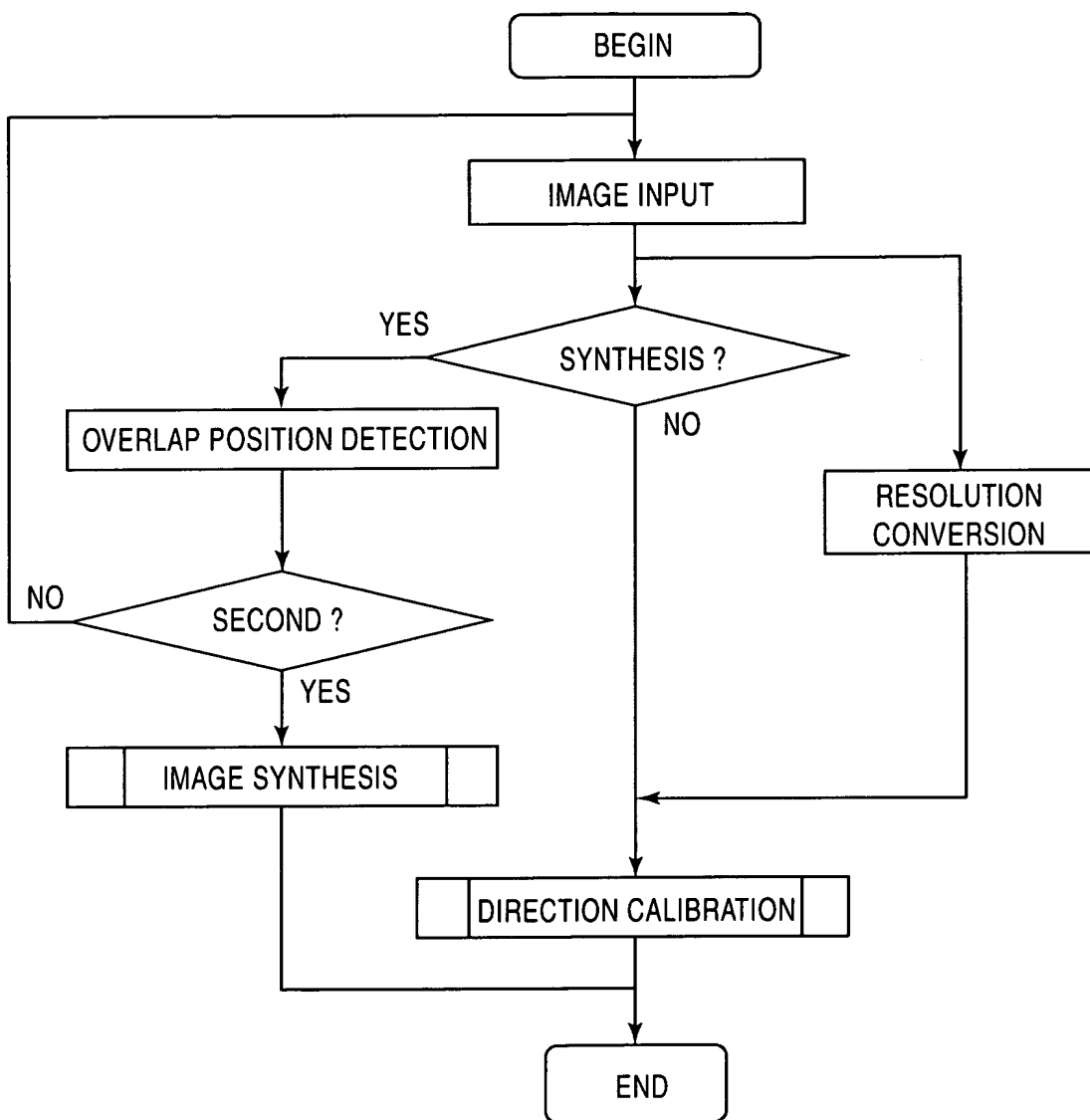






Fig.27

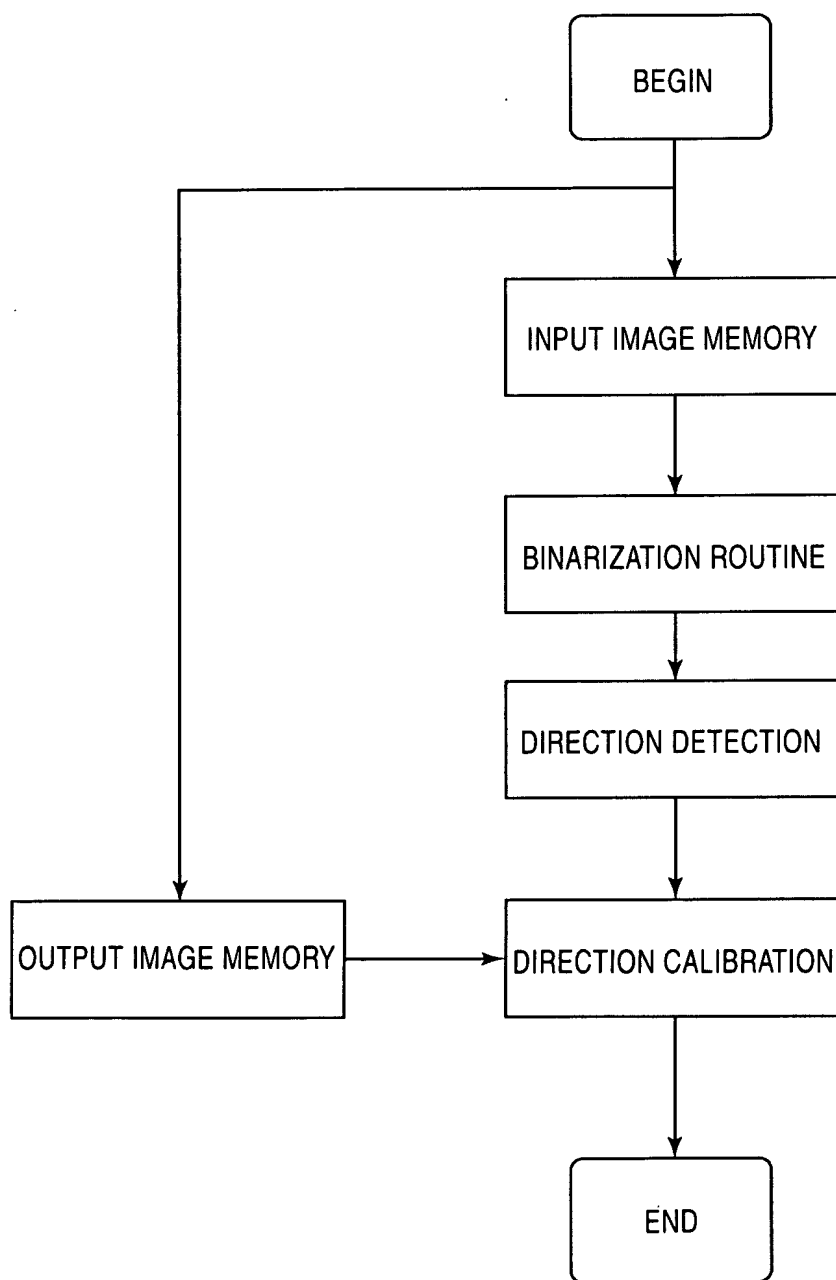




Fig.28

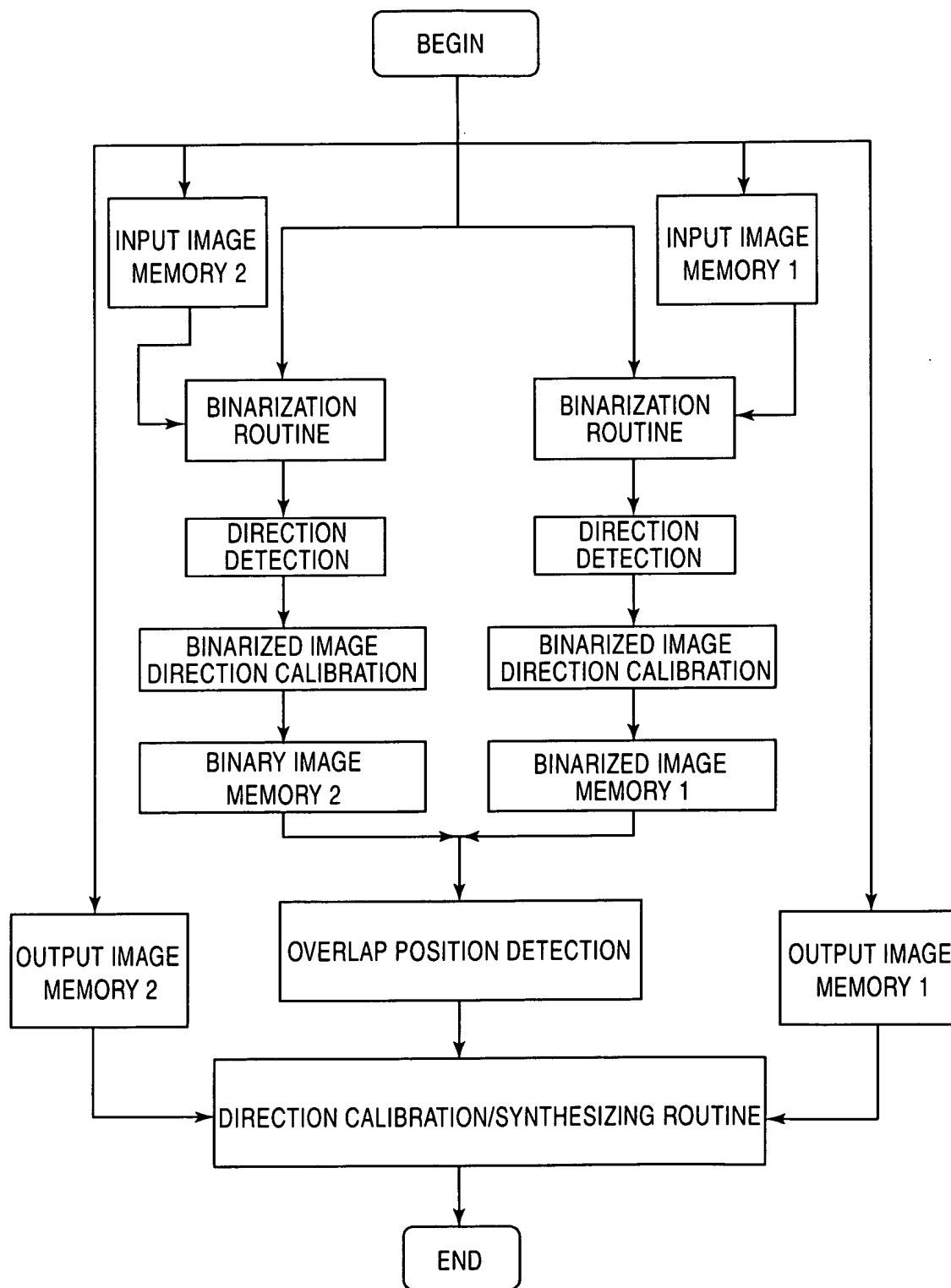






Fig.29

